

# Abstract Page 1

This invention relates to holding straps. More particularly, the invention relates to securing straps to secure a lid or cover of a container.

It is an object of the invention to provide a novel lid strap to secure a the lid or cover of a container, such as, while it is being transported

It is a further object of the invention to provide a novel strap to secure a cover to a bowl to prevent the cover from coming off the bowl, such as the lid of a casserole..

It is a further object of the invention to provide a novel strap to secure a casserole cover to a a casserole bowl which has a decorative sleeve removably mounted to the strap.

It is another object of the invention to provide a novel strap to secure a cover to a bowl which has a sleeve which can be removably mounted to the strap with the sleeve having a decorative matter thereon, scenes, written matter, and/ or advertising thereon.

Further objects and advantages of the invention will become apparent as the description proceeds and when taken in conjunction with the accompanying drawings wherein:

## Brief Description of the Drawings:

Figure 1 is a perspective view of the lid strap showing the strap securing a lid of a container

Figure 2 is a side elevational view of the lid strap invention having a decorative sleeve with the strap un-stretched.

Figure 3 is a front view of the lid strap invention.

Figure 4 is a perspective view of the lid strap invention.

Figure 5 is a perspective view of the lid strap invention with the decorative sleeve removed.

#### Brief Description of the Preferred Embodiment:

Briefly stated, the invention comprises a lid strap to secure the lid of a container while the container is being transported. The lid strap has an elastic strap with hooks at opposite ends to hook over the handles of the container with the strap extending over the top of the container.

The strap hooks each have projecting buttons or pins on its opposing sides edges, and a elongated decorative sleeve is removably mounted over the strap and eyelets are provided in the sleeve at its opposite ends to receive the buttons to secure the sleeve to the strap.

Referring more particularly to the drawings, in Figure 1 the lid strap invention 20 is illustrated mounted in a position extending over the lid 21 of a container 22 to secure the lid in place on the container while transporting the container while it may contain food of some kind.

A elastic strap 23 of the strap invention 20 is made of an elastic band material and has hook fasteners 24 and 24' at each end. The fasteners 24 and 24' are identical each having a flat plate body portion 25. A hook 26 is formed at one end and a slot 27 is provided at the other

end of each fastener. The ends 28 and 28' of the elastic strap 23 are threaded through the slots 27 and folded back against the strap and sewn back to the strap to secure the strap 23 to the fasteners 24 and 24'. On each lateral side edge 29 and 30 of the plate body portion of each fastener 24 and 24' are projecting buttons or pins 31 and 32 which are fixed to the edges 29 and 30, respectively of the fasteners.

A decorative elongated sleeve 33 is slid over the elongated elastic band or strap 23 as shown in Figures 1 and 2. The elongated sleeve 33 has holes or slots 34 and 35 on opposites of the sleeve at each end 36 and 36' of the sleeve. The decorative sleeve 33 is mounted to the strap by being slid over the strap 23, and the sleeve is buttoned onto the fastener buttons of the fasteners by inserting the pins into the slots in the sleeve to secure the sleeve to the strap. The decorative sleeve 33 will remain on the strap while the strap is used to secure a lid to a container such as shown in Figure 1.

The decorative sleeve 33 may removed from time to time from the strap 23 for washing or cleaning or replaced with an other sleeve having some other decoration or informative material thereon. For example, the sleeve 33 may be make with different seasonal decor such a sleeve with Thanksgiving, Christmas, or New Years decor so that the appropriate sleeve with the appropriate decor may be placed upon the elastic band and use with that band on a casserole of food for meals at the appropriate season

The fasteners 24 and will be made of metal or plastic or other material of sufficient strength to maintain their hook like shape, and the strap will have sufficient strength to stretch only to a limited length and not break while mounted over the lid of the container, so as to withstand the weight of the food or other material in the container. Some suitable elastic bands have been

found to provide several inches of elasticity to make the operable upon casserole of differing dimensions within limits, and it is intended that the invention be offered in sets of two different size bands to increase its utility.

The strap invention 20 will be attached customarily after the container or casserole 22 has been filled with food and the lid 21 attached to the container by extending and stretching the band over the top of the lid 21 and attaching the hooks at each end of the strap to the handles 36 and 37 of the container 22.

The strap device 20 will be made in different sizes. The elastic strap 23 will be slightly shorter in length when un-stretched than the length of the path of the strap over the lid and onto the handles of the casserole in their secured position over the lid and onto the handles, so as to be under slight elastic tension when attached. However, the strength of the elastic of the band under this tension will be strong enough to enable, customarily, the band to maintain the lid on the container under normal circumstances.

The decorative sleeve, however, will be made slightly longer in length of the strap and the strap will be made in two or more sizes so that the sleeve length when straightened out will more closely conform to the length of the path of the device over the lid when attached. In this manner, when the device is attached over the lid, the sleeve will be stretched out and unbunched so as to be relatively smooth when attached so that the decorative material on the sleeve can be seen more in the manner and design it was intended.

It will be obvious that various changes and departures may be made to the invention without departing from the spirit and scope thereof; and accordingly, it is not intended that the invention be limited to that specifically described in the specification, or as illustrated in the drawings, but only as set forth in the appended claims wherein: